

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 SSO-00 SS-07 AID-01 NSC-06

NSCE-00 /026 W

-----251324Z 038047 /47

O 251152Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1536

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 LISBON 4155

DEPARTMENT PASS MIKE STERN, SENATOR FINANCE COMMITTEE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV PINT OREP (LONG, RUSSELL B.)

SUBJECT: CODEL LONG

REFS: A) STATE 112621, B) STATE 112621

1. EMBASSY AWAITING RESPONSE TO ITS REQUEST FOR THE SENATOR LONG APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT EANES. APPOINTMENT MAY BE DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE SINCE PRESIDENT EANES WILL NOT RETURN FROM HIS PRESENT VISIT TO SPAIN UNTIL LATE THURSDAY, MAY 26. EMBASSY PRESUMES SENATOR LONG DOES NOT WISH TO SCHEDULE ANY ACTIVITIES FOR MAY 29-31.

2. CALL ON PRIME MINISTER SOARES IS SET FOR FRIDAY, MAY 27 AT 7:30 P.M.

3. EMBASSY AWAITING RESPONSE TO ITS REQUEST FOR CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER MEDEIROS FERREIRA. SCHEDULING IMPEDED BY FACT THAT FOREIGN MINISTER IS IN MADRID WITH PRESIDENT EANES.

4. DINNER HAS BEEN SET FOR FRIDAY MAY 27 AT 8:30 P.M.
MR. AND MRS. STERN ARE INVITED.

5. SATURDAY SCHEDULE BEING LEFT OPEN PENDING DISCUSSIONS UPON CODEL ARRIVAL IN LISBON.

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6. FOLLOWING ARE POINTS WHICH MAY BE RAISED DURING CODEL MEETINGS WITH PORTUGUESE:

(A) PRESIDENT EANES:

(1) POINTS LIKELY TO BE RAISED BY PRESIDENT:

-- PORTUGAL IS CURRENTLY IN THE PROCESS OF CONSOLIDATING THE DEMOCRATIC GAINS OF THE 1974 REVOLUTION. DEMOCRATIC

INSTITUTIONS ARE IN PLACE AND FUNCTIONING, PERHAPS WITHOUT THE DESIRED DEGREE OF EFFICIENCY.

-- DESPITE THEIR TOO FREQUENT SQUABBLING, THE DEMOCRATIC PARTIES ARE COOPERATING IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TO ISOLATE THE COMMUNISTS. THE LATTER, HOWEVER, REMAIN EXTREMELY DANGEROUS AND WILL OPPOSE DEMOCRATIC CONSGIDA-TION EVEN TO THE EXTENT OF TRYING TO PROVOKE A RIGHTIST DECTATORSHIP. THEY WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO SUCCEED.

-- POST REVOLUTIONARY POLITICAL INSTABILITY CAUSED SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WHICH ARE ONLY NOW BEGINNING TO IMPROVE. U.S. AND EUROPEAN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN VERY HELPFUL IN KEEPING THE ECONOMY AFLOAT SOFAR AND REMAINS ESSENTIAL TO POLITICAL STABILITY.

-- PORTUGUESE PARTICIPATION IN NATO WAS LONG LIMITED BY ITS COLONIAL WARS IN AFRICA, DURING WHICH CAPABILITIES OF PORTUGAL'S ARMED FORCES FELL BELOW THOSE OF ITS NATO PARTNERS. PORTUGAL HAS REORGANIZED ITS ARMED FORCES AND IS MOVING TOWARD AN EXPANDED NATO ROLE THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BRIGADE INTEGRATED INTO THE NATO COMMAND STRUCTURE. THE PROMPT MODERNIZATION AND REEQUIPMENT OF THE ARMED FORCES IS HIGH PRIORITY.

(2) POINTS CODEL MAY WISH TO RAISE:

-- A GENERAL QUESTION ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN PORTUGAL WOULD BE A GOOD OPENER.

-- PORTUGAL'S SUCCESS IN ESTABLISHING FUNCTIONING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS IS AN EXAMPLE FOR ALL.

-- THE PORTUGUESE RECORD IN RESTORING HUMAN RIGHTS IS SIMILARLY EXEMPLARY;

-- THE UNITED STATES WELCOMES AN EXPANDED PORTUGUESE

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NATO ROLE AND WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE BRIGADE AND THE OVERALL FORCE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.
-- THE UNITED STATES HAS PROVIDED SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS. WE ARE CONTINUING TO FOLLOW PORTUGUESE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY WITH A VIEW TO ASSISTING PORTUGAL MEET ITS BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND DEVELOPMENT FINANCING REQUIREMENTS.

(B) PRIME MINISTER SOARES:

(1) POINTS LIKELY TO BE RAISED BY PRIME MINISTER:

-- CONCLUSION OF COORDINATED MULTINATIONAL BALANCE OF PAYMENTS LOAN PROGRAM FOR PORTUGAL IS ESSENTIAL TO THE CONSOLIDATION OF PORTUGUESE DEMOCRACY.

-- DESPITE THEIR SQUABBLING WITH THE GOVERNMENT, THE OTHER DEMOCRATIC PARTIES ARE COOPERATING WITH THE SOCIALISTS IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY; THE GOVERNMENT'S AUTHORITY IS UNIMPAIRED. THERE IS NO VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO THE SOCIALISTS.

(2) POINTS CODEL MAY WISH TO RAISE:

-- THE USG HAS ATTEMPTED TO RESPOND AS APPROPRIATE

TO PORTUGAL'S NEEDS FOR EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE.
WE RECOGNIZE THE INTERRELATIONSHIP OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENTS. WE WILL BE AS FLEXIBLE AS POSSIBLE, WITHIN
THE LIMITS OF OUR OWN CONSTRAINTS, TO HELP PORTUGAL
OVERCOME ITS PRESENT CRISIS.

-- WE APPRECIATE YOUR EFFORTS, BOTH AS PRIME MINISTER OF
PORTUGAL AND AS AN INTERNATIONAL LEADER IN SUPPORT OF
DEMOCRACY AND MODERATION.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 LISBON 4155

DEPARTMENT PASS MIKE STERN, SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

-- BY VIRTUE OF ITS EXCELLENT DEMOCRATIC REPUTATION
AMONG THE THIRD WORLD, AND THE AFRICAN NATIONS IN
PARTICULAR, PORTUGAL IS LISTENED TO. PORTUGUESE SUPPORT
OF U.S. INITIATIVES IS MOST HELPFUL.

-- THE PORTUGUESE ADMINISTRATION'S HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD IS
SECOND TO NONE.

(C) FOREIGN MINISTER MEDEIROS FERREIRA:

(1) POINTS LIKELY TO BE RAISED BY FOREIGN MINISTER:

-- THE GOP VERY MUCH APPRECIATES THE SUBSTANTIAL
U.S. ASSISTANCE PROVIDED IN THE PAST. CONTINUED
U.S. SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL TO THE STRENGTHENING OF THE
DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS IN PORTUGAL.

-- WHAT ARE PROSPECTS FOR EARLY CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL
OF THE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR PORTUGAL PROPOSED BY THE
CARTER ADMINISTRATION?

-- PORTUGAL'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY IS LINKED IMPORTANTLY
TO THE HEALTH OF THE WORLD ECONOMY. THE U.S. SETS
THE PACE. WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON CURRENT STATE OF
THE U.S. ECONOMY?

(2) POINTS CODEL MAY WISH TO RAISE:

-- THE GOP HAS MADE A CLEAR OPTION FOR INTEGRATION INTO

EUROPE. IS EUROPE PREPARED TO ACCEPT PORTUGAL AND
PROVIDE SUPPORT REQUIRED TO CONSOLIDATE DEMOCRATIC
INSTITUTIONS?
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-- WHAT IS THE STATUS OF PORTUGAL'S APPLICATION TO
JOIN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY? WHAT ARE THE DIFFICULTIES?

-- WHAT ARE THE LONGER TERM FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES
OF THE GOP?

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